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## EARLY MISSIONS ON MENOMINEE RIVER

I am trying to find the date of the founding of the first Catholic mission on the Menominee River. I know the locality, at Mission Point, Marinette, Wisconsin, but I can find no tradition here as to date of founding or name of the priest who founded it. I thought the papers of the late Lewis S. Patrick of Marinette might contain some information on these points. Will you kindly tell me how to go about getting this? I think all of Mr. Patrick's historical papers were turned over to the State Historical Society.

I will be very grateful for any information on the subject.

JOSEPHINE SAWYER  
*Menominee, Michigan*

The earliest Catholic mission on the Menominee River was begun in 1670 by Father Claude Allouez. The mission was named St. Michael, and was maintained for several years and ministered to by Father Louis André. The accounts of this mission are to be found in *Jesuit Relations* (R. G. Thwaites, editor), LIV, 235; LV, 103; LVI, 125; LVIII, 273-81; LXI, 153-55. The exact site of this mission can never be known, as it was abandoned over two hundred years ago. The "Mission Point" which you mention was the site of an early Methodist mission. In Mr. Patrick's papers there is the following statement concerning it: "The Methodist mission house was located near the site of the machine shop of the N. Ludington Company. It was built about 1833 by Rev. John Clark who was missionary for all the territory from Lake Superior to Chicago. He worked there with the Indians until about 1836, when ill success made him discontinue his mission. There was a house that was never finished and a blacksmith shop. The house was sold in 1839 to Samuel Farnsworth who moved it nearly opposite the Marquette flour mill, and occupied it as his residence."

## EARLY TRAILS AND HIGHWAYS OF WISCONSIN

The National Association of the Daughters of the American Revolution has a committee, of which I am the member for Wisconsin, to establish the lines of early trails and roads in the United States. I am, therefore, interested in planning an active campaign among the several local chapters of the state looking to the location, and ultimately to the marking of some of the more important early trail and highway routes of Wisconsin. Can you give me any suggestions which may be of value in this connection?

MRS. G. W. DEXHEIMER  
*Fort Atkinson*

It seems to us it would be well not to undertake too many trails at first, but to have a definite program for two or three, and perhaps for marking the two great military roads, one in the southern and the other in the northern portion of the state. For instance: suppose you attempt to locate the Chicago-Green Bay trail (from the state boundary). If you carefully consult the accounts of early travelers and mail riders in the *Wisconsin Historical Collections* you can get the main lines in Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Brown counties. We recommend these references: *Collections*, IV, 282; VII, 239; XI, 229; XV, 453. Then take one cross-state trail from Milwaukee to Rock River and the lead mines. On this see *Collections*, VI, 139, and other references; also consult *Wau Bun*.

The old military road from Fort Howard to Fort Winnebago was the earliest road in the territory. It was continued along the military ridge in Iowa and Grant counties to Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien. Some progress has been made in studying its route through Dane County. The northern military road was built much later, between 1866 and 1871; it ran from Fort Howard northwestward, and was built by a grant of land.

If you can make a start in locating these trails and roads you will do good service for Wisconsin history. The old maps of early Wisconsin that we keep at the Library will be valuable to you in the study of these trails.

### EARLY HISTORY OF WEST POINT

I would like to know anything of historical interest attaching to West Point on the western shore of Lake Mendota. I would particularly like information concerning the traders St. Cyr and Rowan, who are said to have been located here at an early day.

H. S. STAFFORD  
*Madison*

So far as is known the earliest permanent habitation upon the Madison lakes was a small cabin built upon the northwest shore of Fourth Lake some time after 1829. In that year Judge James D. Doty and Morgan L. Martin crossed the country on horseback from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien. They took a trail from Green Lake that brought them to the Four Lakes, and they found a few Winnebago Indians on the north shore of Lake Mendota, but no white